



COLUMBIA COUNTY IS AGITATED

BITTER FIGHT BETWEEN FACTIONS AT RAINIER

Liquor Question Has Divided Columbia County Into Opposing Parties and Trouble is Considered Imminent—Fischer Assault Incident.

INDICTMENTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ISSUED

GRAND JURY IS IN SESSION AT ST HELENS, TAKING TESTIMONY—DATES BACK FOR SEVERAL YEARS—SALOON INTERESTS HAVE HELD FULL SWAY FOR LONG TIME CAUSE OF CONTROVERSY.

ST. HELENS, Or., May 15.—The recent liquor agitation and trouble at Rainier has reached a stage where the conditions may be properly said to be acute. The assault upon W. C. Fischer, editor of the anti-liquor paper, by saloon interests, has so wrought up public feeling against them that the next election will undoubtedly see the county go heavily for prohibition. The contest however will be severe, and that trouble will attend the inevitable clashing of the two hostile factions is predicted.

Today the situation is tense, and the grand jury which is in session is receiving statements which will be the cause of many indictments. The whole of Columbia county is divided into two opposing factions, both determined to see the other wiped out of existence.

Assault But Incidental.
The brutal assault on W. C. Fischer, editor of the reform paper, by a confessed hired thug of the liquor men, is but one of the features of the fight. Rev. H. G. Kemp, another reform leader has been arrested for carrying a revolver, and today says that he received threats against his life. Steps are being taken by the grand jury to see that Kemp has protection.

The trouble at Rainier dates back several years. The saloons have been run wide open. Rainier appears to have been one of the most wicked small towns in Oregon. It was wide open and the lid was off. Saloons were run in a manner which would not be tolerated in Astoria's worst district. Liquor men dictated politics, controlled everything, did as they pleased and gambling and vice flourished. There was a small minority which deplored these things, but made no remonstrance, for want of a leader.

Fischer Begins Agitation.
Fischer began an agitation for improved regulations of the dives. The County Court had to act on many cases which had their rise in the Rainier saloons, such as young girls being taken drunk from the liquor places. The young element thought of little else than drinking, gambling and dancing.

After Fischer began the moral movement, Kemp aided the cause from the pulpit. Petty annoyances were inflicted on Fischer and Kemp, and finally the people who sided with them were boycotted. The liquor dealers' association was organized and then the anti-saloon league was formed. The reformers wished to raise the saloon license from \$400 to \$1000 a year, thus eliminating many saloons and regulating those remaining.

Reformers Win Election.
The reformers elected three of five Councilmen. The saloonists boasted that they would control one of the reform Councilmen, and later this proved true, for one of the Councilmen repudiated his written pledge and stood with the liquor dealers. The anti then notified the saloons to close Sundays, and later had them arrested by violating the laws against gambling. Private detectives were hired in Portland to secure evidence against the saloons. Next came the assault on Fischer, confessed by James Remington, and threats against Kemp. The situation is such that people who tolerated the saloon element in the past have reached the point where they must take sides, and are swinging to the moral element.

The liquor men in the past were powerful in politics, and have not lost all their influence. They will fight to the bitter end. In the conspiracy to scare Fischer and Kemp out of Rainier all the liquor men have been implicated but one.

Many Arrests Promised.
Wholesale arrests are promised. Rainier is the center of a logging district, and Sunday was the day the loggers and farmers came to Rainier to drink and trade. Saloonists say their receipts Sunday are greater than all the rest of the week. The merchants also derived

great benefit, and are said by one faction to favor an open Sunday.

The anti have interviewed the merchants and quote them as anxious to close.

Saturday night the Rainier merchants held a meeting, and all but one agreed to keep closed Sunday.

Most antagonistic is the feeling in the county, and the plan is to make the county prohibition in June for two years. After that the saloon men will have learned their lesson and the saloons will be reopened under other management.

There is a very vast accumulation of business before the grand jury, and it may be several days before it can return indictments. In the meanwhile the saloon element and the reformers are sitting on a smoldering volcano, which may erupt at any time.

JEROME SECURES RECORDS.

NEW YORK, May 15.—After the adjournment of the insurance grand jury yesterday district Attorney Jerome announced that he had secured the entire records of the supply department of the Mutual Life Insurance Company. Whether he had secured them upon an order of the court he refused to state. Shortly after the announcement of the District Attorney a truck backed up to the criminal court building and three huge packing cases containing vouchers, books, and letter files were brought up to the district attorney's office.

NAME IS UNKNOWN ALMOST CONCLUDED

Victim of the Burned Box-car Is Unidentified.

OTIS McCARTY EXONERATED

Jury Frees From Blame, Man Who Shot Sheepherder—Man Who Left the Train at Foster Now Being Sought For.

PENDLETON, Ore., May 15.—John Connelly, a sheepherder, who was shot and killed at 5 o'clock last evening at Pine City, Morrow County, by Otis McCarty, while the former was resisting arrest. With Allen Thompson and Charles Bartholomew, McCarty was hunting for the man suspected of setting fire to the freight car in which a man was burned at Foster Station yesterday morning. McCarty called to him to halt three times, shooting after the third call.

Before dying, Connelly said he had been mentally off for several days, and this was the reason he did not throw up his hands.

The verdict of the Coroner's jury given at Echo last night exonerates McCarty from all blame, but the case will probably be referred to the grand jury at the coming term of court, in Morrow county.

The identity of the man burned in the freight car at Foster Station is still unknown. William Wilson, a soldier of the Twenty-fifth Battery of Field Artillery, is still held in the County Jail here. He had charge of the car containing household goods, and two horses shipped from Fort Riley, Kansas, to Colonel S. M. Taylor, Port Townsend, Wash. He claims he knew nothing about the men in the car nor of the origin of the fire. It is believed he is concealing the facts.

Just after the fire a small, dark stranger left the track near Foster, going southward. His name is unknown. The theory is that he or Wilson, or both, were involved in the murder of the burned man. Further investigations are being made.

TOTAL U. S. LUMBER CUT.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—A total of 2,738,000,000 feet of lumber was cut in the United States in 1905 according to figures of the government forestry service. The stock on hand January 1, was given as 6,500,000,000 feet. The total cut of laths was 2,910,000,000 feet and shingles, 131,970,000,000 feet.

ANOTHER LAKE TIE-UP.

CLEVELAND, May 15.—The inability of the marine fireman to agree with the Lake carriers association over the wage scale today, it is believed will throw the Lake carrying situation back where it was previous to last week. President Livingstone of the Carriers' Association says he is confident he will be able to secure firemen and another tie-up will not necessarily follow.

EDITOR RELEASED.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15.—Fred L. Purdy, editor of the Indianapolis Sun was released from jail on his bond today pending a hearing of an application for a writ of habeas corpus. Purdy was committed to jail for printing a criticism of Judge Alford of the Marion County Criminal Court.

Senate Committee of Whole Nearly Concludes Rate Bill.

ONLY ONE MORE AMENDMENT

When Senate in Committee of Whole Concludes Consideration of Anti-Pass Amendment, Bill Will Come Before Senate.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—With the anti-pass amendment the senate has concluded its discussion of the railroad rate bill in the committee of the whole, and as soon as that provision is disposed of, will take it up in the senate. The general expectation is to pass the question to be disposed of, early tomorrow and the general hope is that the bill may be passed before the close of tomorrow's session. The greater part of the day was spent in the discussion of the eighth section of the bill, relating to the personnel of the inter-state commerce commission, resulting in the elimination of an entire section and restoring the present law which provides for five commissioners at salaries of \$7500. While the debate on this section was in progress, Tillman took the floor in behalf of ex-Senator Chandler, which has been momentarily expected since Lodge's denial to the Senate on Saturday of some of the statements attributed to Chandler by the South Carolina senator. Tillman read a portion of Chandler's memorandum, which already has been made public concerning the conference with the President, prefacing it with a brief statement of his own, saying that on Saturday the Senate had been startled and mortified to hear the utterances of an ex-member denounced as, on behalf of the President, a "Deliberate and unqualified falsehood."

When Tillman concluded Allison read the President's letter to him in order to have the letter made as permanent on the records as Tillman's statements. Attorney General Moody's statement was also read. This closed the incident.

INSANE LOVER GOES ON A RAMPAGE OF CRIME

Crazy Telegraph Operator Kills One Man, Severely Wounds Three Others, Slightly Wounds Fifth, Clubs Sixth With Gun, and Kills Himself.

GIRL REFUSES TO PERMIT HIS ATTENTIONS

DRINK AND DISAPPOINTMENT IN LOVE CAUSE HIM TO GO INSANE—TRIES TO BURN DOWN HOUSE OF LOVER'S UNCLE—POSSE SURROUND MANIAC AND HE COMMITS SUICIDE—WOUNDED MEN MAY DIE.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 15.—Crazed by drink and disappointment in a love affair, James H. Clark, a telegraph operator at Chamblee, a dozen miles north of Atlanta, began late yesterday afternoon a rampage of crime. In less than twenty-four hours he killed one man, severely wounded three others, slightly wounded a fifth and clubbed a sixth with his shotgun, set fire to the house of one of his victims and when surrounded by a posse shortly after noon today, shot himself through the heart. Clark had paid marked attention to a niece of E. S. Purcell, but was discouraged. He went to the Purcell house last night and was refused admittance. He then set fire to the house. When Purcell and his son came out, to

fight the fire, Clark fired, wounding both. He came back about midnight and made another attempt to fire the house. When an attempt was made to seize him, he shot W. S. Mask, the station agent in the back of the neck. Clark next appeared at Dunwoody, about five miles away early today and going to the store of Nash and Cheek demanded ammunition which was refused. Clark immediately fired, killing Cheek. He also fired at Nash inflicting a dangerous wound. He then ran towards the woods attacking and wounding slightly J. Coker while on the way. The officers put bounds on his track and he was surrounded soon in the afternoon. When he found his capture was certain Clark shot himself.

CROOKED POLITICIAN.

HAMILTON, Ohio, May 15.—U. F. Bickley, for years a leading lawyer in Hamilton and recently democratic candidate nominee for congress from the third Ohio district was indicted today by the grand jury for embezzlement and forgery in connection with alleged frauds while administrator of the estate of Charles Gatham. Disbarment proceedings are now pending.

VESUVIUS ACTIVE.

NAPLES, May 15.—Professor Matteucci, director of the royal observatory, today telegraphed that the activity of Mount Vesuvius is increasing and the main crater is discharging great quantities of sand. The professor added that it was impossible, on account of rain to explore the volcano.

VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.

SPOKANE, May 15.—A verdict of manslaughter was returned tonight against Mrs. Josephine Baruth of Medical Lake, who is on trial for shooting her husband who was a member of the town council. They quarrelled, and Baruth chased the woman through the house and she secured a revolver and fired three shots, one wounding him in the arm and another in the breast. Blood poisoning set in, and he died a few days later.

SHINGLE MILLS TO CLOSE.

TACOMA, Wash., May 15.—Tacoma shingle mills will close tomorrow, in accordance with the dictum of the bureau meeting held in Seattle Saturday. The desire is to beat the bears and force the price to \$1.80.

TRAIN ROBBERS CAPTURED AFTER SEVERE FIGHT

VANCOUVER, May 15.—The three train robbers arrested late yesterday after a desperate fight with the mounted police were brought into Kamloops this afternoon. They were in charge of Constable Fernie to whom belongs the credit of their capture, and Constable Pears, who was in charge of the police and posse. Tomorrow the bandits will be given their preliminary hearing. They will probably be remanded, for one of the younger robbers, who says his name is Dunn, was shot through the thigh, and it will be several days before he will be able to answer to the charge of robbing the train. The old man of the trio is undoubtedly Bill Miner, notorious as a highwayman and train robber and with a price on his head larger probably than any other man on the Pacific Coast. This man says his name is George Edwards, while the youngest of the trio says his name is Calhoun, a miner, who has been living in Ashengrove mining camp for the last two years and occasionally has been absent for a month or so and apparently went back to this mining camp after the C. P. R. hold-up a year ago. He is wanted in San Francisco as well as for the holdup of an O. R. & N. train at Troutdale three years ago. There is a reward of something like \$20,000 coming to somebody. The robbers were fully armed with automatic revolvers and in their pockets were found several letters stolen from the express car. They opened fire when the officers came up and it was in this fight that Dunn was hurt.

LOWER HOUSE BEGINS REPLY TO THE THRONE

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—The lower house of Parliament tonight began on the reply to the speech from the throne, adjourning at midnight after a speech by Mr. Rodicheff and a dozen orators of lesser calibre. The debate tonight showed the principal attack on the reply will come from the left and that the leaders of parliament have more to fear from the radicals than from the conservatives. The debate to-

night was tame. Two features developed outside of the regular debate; the first is the adoption of a rule relative to prepare a question whereby fifty members can prevent the stoppage of the debate thus enabling filibustering by a determined minority, consisting of a tenth of the membership of the house. The other feature was the development of a conservative peasant group among the government supporters.